BH.HB

Bacteriology Department 5th April, 1960

Professor and Mrs. J. Lederberg, Department of Genetics, Stanford University, Stanford, California, U.S.A.

Dear Esther and Josh,

Thank you for the information about Barpn's work with Salmonella. I wrote to him about it but never received a reply. Actually I have been doing some more experiments to transfer F to Pseudomonas and FP to Coli without any success. However, it looks as though this work will be continued by Barbara Fargie and Luca in Pavia. As you know Barbara is over there and from all accounts doing very well. Luca is interested in doing some joint Coli-Pseudomonas experiments and I think the environment of a qualified Coli worker and a qualified Pseudomonas worker should have a very good chance of success. I have sent a number of strains of Pseudomonas to Pavia and I look forward to hearing the results.

David Gray in this department has obtained some interesting results from cattle infections resulting from more than one species of Salmonella. This has interested him to the point where he would like to examine mixed infections and possible genetic recombinations in vive, and I am going to assist with some phases of this project. I am wondering if you could let us have some strains of Salmonella typhimurium. What I would like is some Auxotrophs and some ferment markers of LT2 or LT7. It is a little difficult for me to ask for particular mutants as I do not know what you have in stock, but I will not need more than two or three auxotrophs and fermentation mutants of each of these strains, so I shall leave the actual selection to you.

I have been meaning to send you a copy of the recombination manuscript which has been accepted for publication by J. Bact. but at the moment I do not have a spare copy after the one I sent to Barbara. However, I shall let you have this as soon as possible. We have two other papers in press, one on the use of lysogenicity and pyocinogenicity to type Pseudomonas strains and the other a more general study of Pseudomonas phages. In addition, we have two more papers on the transduction work in preparation. More recently, I have had the opportunity of collaboration with a nucleic-acid biochemist and we are looking at the DNA of Pseudomonas and its phages.

Bob has left to go to Canberra and the latest report is that he is busy learning all about these creatures called plants. I think it should be a very interesting problem indeed and undoubtedly Bob is working with a very active and stimulating group. Your prognostication about the building was right and already we are expecting a twelve months delay in its completion. You, should be seeing Syd in California some time in July on his way to New York. Frank Gibson is back in fine form.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely.

Brice Holloway